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Attachment to Z-10241/83

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NPIC/PEG (2/83)

**AIRBORNE ACTIVITY, 98TH GUARDS
BOLGRAD HEADQUARTERS AIRBORNE DIV/AB AL 1, USSR**

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1. (SWN) SIGNIFICANCE: UNUSUAL CONVOY AND PALLETING ACTIVITY AT THE BOLGRAD BARRACKS WHICH HOUSES ELEMENTS OF THE 98TH GUARDS AIRBORNE DIVISION IS SEEN ON TODAY'S IMAGERY. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACTIVITY IS UNCLEAR; HOWEVER, THE TRADITIONAL CONTINGENCY MISSION OF THE 98TH GUARDS HAS BEEN TO PROTECT SOVIET INTEREST IN THE MIDDLE-EAST AREA. NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED AT VESSLYY KUT ARMY BARRACKS AL 1 [REDACTED] WHICH HOUSES OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE 98TH GUARDS.

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2. (SWN) REMARKS: AN INCREASE IN ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED AT BOLGRAD HEADQUARTERS AIRBORNE DIVISION/AB AL 1 [REDACTED] (NOT ALL ACTIVITY ON GRAPHIC). FIFTY TRUCKS AND AT LEAST 20 TRAILERS LOADED WITH PALLETS ARE IN COLUMNS IN THE ADJACENT TRAINING AREA. A PROBABLE SIGNAL UNIT OF TEN VAN TRUCKS IS DEPLOYED NEARBY. ADDITIONAL PALLET LOADING IS IN PROGRESS IN THE AIRBORNE ASSAULT GUN VEHICLE PARK. OTHER ACTIVITY INCLUDES PARACHUTE PACKING OPERATIONS ON THE PARADE FIELD (APPROXIMATELY 20 PARACHUTES AND 50 PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT) AND A PROBABLE BATTALION OF TROOPS IN FORMATION AT ONE OF THE BARRACKS.

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(SWN) PALLET OPERATIONS INVOLVING A FEW PIECES OF EQUIPMENT ARE NORMAL; HOWEVER, TODAY'S OPERATIONS ARE MORE EXTENSIVE THAN THOSE USUALLY OBSERVED. THIS LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IS UNUSUAL AND MAY BE RELATED TO THE PRESENCE OF TWO CANDID TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT WHICH WERE AT CHERVONO-GLINSKOYE AIRFIELD [REDACTED] ON 12 FEBRUARY AND HAD DEPARTED BY TODAY. CANDID ARE NOT NORMALLY AT CHERVONO-GLINSKOYE WHICH SUPPORTS THE 98TH. ALSO, NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY WAS SEEN ON TODAY'S IMAGERY OF BOLGRAD AIRFIELD SOUTHEAST [REDACTED] WHICH ALSO SUPPORTS THE 98TH GUARDS.

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 45-41-55N 028-36-16E

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Intelligence Sources
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